

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 STATE 231603

15

ORIGIN EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 PM-03 INR-05 L-02 ACDA-05

NSAE-00 PA-01 RSC-01 PRS-01 SP-02 USIA-06 TRSE-00

SAJ-01 DODE-00 EB-04 COME-00 NSC-05 SS-15 /064 R

DRAFTED BY OSD/ISA:JMILLER

APPROVED BY EUR/RPM:EREHFELD

----- 073696

R 212156Z OCT 74

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO USMISSION NATO

INFO ANATO

USCINCEUR

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 231603

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: MCAP, NATO

SUBJECT: 1975-1979 NATO INFRASTRUCTURE PROGRAM

REF: STATE 199719

FOLLOWING LETTER, DATED OCTOBER 7, 1974, IS REPLY TO LETTER QUOTED IN REF. PLEASE PROVIDE DETAILS OF PROPOSALS BEING CONSIDERED IN BRUSSELS REFERRED TO IN PENULTIMATE PARAGRAPH.

QUOTE DEAR JIM,

QUOTE THANK YOU FOR YOUR LETTER OF 10TH SEPTEMBER ABOUT THE NATO INFRASTRUCTURE PROGRAMME.

QUOTE FOLLOWING OUR TALK IN BERGEN IN JUNE YOU KNOW THAT I SHARE YOUR VIEW OF THE IMPORTANCE OF THE PROGRAMME - IN POLITICAL AS WELL AS MILITARY TERMS. I TOLD YOU THEN THAT I WOULD RE-EXAMINE THE BRITISH POSITION ON THE QUESTION
CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 02 STATE 231603

OF FUNDING FOR THE NEXT FIVE YEAR PROGRAMME. AS A RESULT

OF MY EXAMINATION I WAS ABLE TO OBTAIN THE CONSENT OF MY MINISTERIAL COLLEAGUES TO OFFER AN INCREASE IN THE BRITISH CONTRIBUTION SUFFICIENT TO SUPPORT, ON THE BASIS OF OUR 12 PERCENT COST SHARE, AN OVERALL PROGRAMME OF IAU 400M.

QUOTE IN THIS CONTEXT I SHOULD SAY A WORD ABOUT THE QUESTION OF OUR PERCENTAGE COST SHARE OF NATO INFRA-STRUCTURE FUNDING. WE HAVE, AS YOU KNOW, A VERY STRONG CASE FOR A REDUCTION IN OUR SHARE. WHATEVER CRITERION, OR COMBINATION OF CRITERIA, FOR EXAMPLE, NATIONAL WEALTH, USER BENEFIT, OR INDUSTRIAL RETURN, IS EMPLOYED, IT IS CLEAR THAT WE NOW PAY A DISPROPORTIONATELY HIGH SHARE OF THE TOTAL. BUT PRINCIPALLY BECAUSE WE DID NOT WISH TO CUT ACROSS YOUR OWN INITIATIVE IN THIS FIELD, WE AND OUR PREDECESSORS IN OFFICE HAVE SO FAR ELECTED NOT TO PRESS THIS CASE. I DO NOT INTEND TO DELAY ANY POSSIBLE PROGRESS IN NATO ON THE INFRASTRUCTURE PROBLEM BY PURSUING OUR CASE NOW, ALTHOUGH I CANNOT EXCLUDE THE POSSIBILITY THAT, WHEN WE HAVE COMPLETED OUR DEFENCE REVIEW, I SHALL BE OBLIGED TO ARGUE DIRECTLY FOR THE SUBSTANTIAL REDUCTION IN OUR COST SHARE TO WHICH WE WOULD IN EQUITY BE ENTITLED.

QUOTE ON THE MORE GENERAL QUESTION OF THE LEVEL OF THE PROGRAMME, SINCE WE WERE, AND STILL ARE INVOLVED IN A MAJOR DEFENCE REVIEW AGAINST A VERY SOMBE BACKGROUND, THE CONCESSION WHICH I OFFERED WAS IN MY VIEW A REALLY SUBSTANTIAL ONE. I CAN SEE NO PROSPECT OF STILL FURTHER INCREASES, OR FOR THAT MATTER OF OUR BEING ABLE TO ACCEPT THE FURTHER COMMITMENT THAT WOULD BE IMPLICIT IN AGREEING TO A REVIEW OF THE LEVEL OF THE PROGRAMME AFTER FOUR YEARS.

QUOTE HOWEVER, I SHOULD ALSO MAKE IT CLEAR THAT IT IS NO PART OF MY WISH TO BLOCK ANY SCHEME WHEREBY THE LEVEL OF INFRASTRUCTURE FUNDING OVER THE NEXT FIV YEARS MIGHT BE RAISED TO IAU 450M OR POUND 467M OR EVEN HIGHER, PROVIDED THAT THE BRITISH CONTRIBUTION WAS NO MORE THAN OUR PRESENT SHARE OF AN IAU 400M PROGRAMME. INDEED, I UNDERSTAND THAT SOME PROPOSALS OF THIS KIND
CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 03 STATE 231603

ARE NOW BEING CONSIDERED IN BRUSSELS AND, IF THEY WERE PURSUED TO A SUCCESSFUL CONCLUSION, COULD LE-AD TO AN AGREEMENT WHICH WOULD REFLECT OUR POSITION AND STILL PROVIDE THE ALLIANCE WITH A PROGRAMME OF ABOUT THE LEVEL YOU HAVE PROPOSED. I HOPE VERY MUCH THAT YOU WILL BE ABLE TO GIVE YOUR SUPPORT TO A SOLUTION ON THESE LINES, WHICH SEEMS THE BEST WAY TO PROVIDE US ALL WITH THE ANSWER THAT WE NEED.

QUOTE I, TOO, LOOK FORWARD TO SEEING YOU AGAIN IN ROME
IN NOVEMBER AND TO THE FURTHER OPPORTUNITY THAT WILL
GIVE US TO EXCHANGE VIEWS ON OUR COMMON DEFENCE
PROBLEMS.

QUOTE BEST WISHES. SINCERELY, ROY UNQUOTE INGERSOLL

CONFIDENTIAL

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: BURDENSARING, ARMED FORCES, MILITARY PLANS, FIVE YEAR PLAN, NEGOTIATIONS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 21 OCT 1974
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: golinofr
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1974STATE231603
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: JMILLER
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D740300-0820
From: STATE
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1974/newtext/t19741029/aaaaayqj.tel
Line Count: 122
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ORIGIN EUR
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 3
Previous Channel Indicators:
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: STATE 199719
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: golinofr
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 03 APR 2002
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <03 APR 2002 by boyleja>; APPROVED <06-Aug-2002 by golinofr>
Review Markings:

Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
30 JUN 2005

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: T: 1975-1979 NATO INFRASTRUCTURE PROGRAM
TAGS: MCAP, NATO
To: NATO BRUSSELS
Type: TE
Markings: Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005